

WATER CONSERVATION*

Art. I. In General, §§ 25.5-1—25.5-15

Art. II. Conservation of Water Supplies, §§ 25.5-16—25.5-28

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 25.5-1. Purpose.

This chapter is intended to promote reasonable conservation of water in the County of San Mateo consistent with maintaining a comfortable standard of living and a healthy economy. It provides a framework for the orderly and timely implementation of reasonable water conservation measures by the different elements of the county's economy. This chapter also carries out certain provisions of the Water Code of the State of California as embodied in article XIV, section 3 of the Constitution of the State of California, which states that maximum beneficial use of the water resources of the state is necessary to prevent the waste or unreasonable use, or unreasonable method of use, of water. This chapter further implements the provisions of the conservation element of the Comprehensive Water Resources Management Plan for San Mateo County as adopted on June 20, 1978.

It is recognized that stricter water conservation measures may be necessary during a future drought or water shortage emergency. Such further measures should not penalize water users for past conservation practices, nor should implementation of water conservation measures constitute a new basis to determine future reductions in case of a declared water shortage emergency. No provision in this chapter is intended to supersede any rule or regulation of the Public Utilities Commission of the State of California. (Ord. No. 687, § 1(Art. I), 2-10-81)

Secs. 25.5-2- 25.5-15. Reserved.

ARTICLE II. CONSERVATION OF WATER SUPPLIES

Sec. 25.5-16. Definitions.

The following words and terms as used in this chapter shall have the following meanings:

Applied Water: Water delivered to a user. Also called delivered water. Applied water may be used for either inside uses or for outside watering. It does not include precipitation or distribution losses. It may apply to metered or unmetered deliveries.

Commercial Establishment: Establishments providing services, engaged in the fabrication of structures or other fixed improvements, or otherwise occupied in nonmanufacturing profit-motivated activities. Examples are retail stores, restaurants, entertainment facilities and home building concerns.

Commercial Water Use: Water used by a commercial establishment.

Domestic Use: All inside and outside uses of water associated with residential use; water used by commercial and industrial establishments other than in their product manufacture.

Establishment: An economic unit which produces goods or services, such as a farm, a factory, or a store. In most instances, the establishment is in a single physical location, and is engaged in only one, or predominantly one, type of economic activity.

Evapotranspiration (ET): The process of water returning to the atmosphere through evaporation from land and water surfaces and through transpiration of plants.

*Editor's note—Ord. No. 687, § 1, adopted Feb. 10, 1981, added Ch. 29, §§ 29-1—29-13. In order to maintain the alphabetical sequence of chapters, the editor has redesignated the provisions as Ch. 25.5. For convenience' sake, the history note will include the section number as originally promulgated as Ch. 29.